

Gossip of the Comstock and Embryo Millionaires

You ask me what class of men got rich, says the New York Mining Age. There were no class distinctions in those days, or at most, there were two classes. The men who "struck it" and made stakes, they were one class; the others, who never guessed right, they made up the other class. The first were the "self made, pendent and discerning stalwarts;" the others were "the careless and improvident ones," who even in that golden field could not make good.

There were others, natural born financiers, who believed where such deposits of ore as those on the Comstock existed there were chances for more magnificent gambling than was ever seen before, and that the ones who could gather in the percentages of the game would do pretty well.

Chief of these was William Sharon, and for many years he was right, fully held as the king of the Comstock, for he had the genius to keep the work going on and to keep the workers paid promptly on every pay day, and if the bulk of that pay went into the mining stocks, so much the better. And he found the bonanza in the Belcher and Crown Point and many lesser ones. In seven years after 1870 more than \$10,000,000 was paid there in dividends which the people got.

Among these was Charlie Foreman. A shrewd man was he. He estimated everything, not only the daily presentations in the mines, but the probable life of the lode, the influence of the great heat as the mines were explored deeper and deeper—everything. So when his wife wanted a comfortable home, he built her a fine one, but keeping everything in mind, not a spike was used in the frame; it was put together

with wooden plugs, so when the orange was squeezed and other men lost their houses, he had the pegs sawed off, took the house down, loaded it on cars, shipped it to Los Angeles, had it set up there and lived in it yet.

And speaking of houses, no one knows how many beautiful homes in every state in the Union are the products of Comstock ore and stocks. Why, here in New York, I notice that D. O. Mills died as one your most respected citizens. That was right, too, for his character was high and his life clean, even where, in a little office in California, he bought gold dust at the going rates of placer miners. But the Comstock made his great wealth, despite his own protests. It was the presence of William Sharon, backed by the broad-mindedness of W. C. Ralston, that caused him, through the Comstock, to become a fifteen-times millionaire.

W. H. Hobart was another one. Genial and generous every day of his life, he took in the Comstock, and while dealing indirectly in Comstock shares, to minister to his own tremendous energies, went up on the eastern slope of the Sierras, put the shackles on a stream of water there and made a lake, and in a V flume, sent down millions of feet of timber to supply the Comstock, and then sent the water down the mountain side, across Washoe valley and up the range in which the Comstock is located, and so gave Virginia City the snow waters of the Sierras every day in the year. And that you may appreciate what a feat that was, it is only necessary to say that where the pipe crosses Washoe valley there is a vertical pressure of 1,100 feet.

Then Mr. Hobart left Nevada, bought a great estate near San Mateo, a few miles from San Francisco stocked it with beautiful horses, and meant to spend the evening of his life there. But there was to be no evening. His life went in a twinkling out of the sunlight into the darkness—there was no twilight for him. He was rated as one of the California millionaires, and he owed it all to the Comstock.

The late Isaac Requa was another. California holds him in memory as one of its great millionaires. Every dollar of his fortune came from the Comstock. When he went there, a sterling man that he was, he was too poor to raise an umbrella.

General Corbin of the United States army married a lady who was a millionaire. Her mother is several times a millionaire, but she closed the eyes of her husband in Gold Hill, where he, through years of trial, concentrated his earnings in Crown Point when the stock was \$2, and a little while after his death his administrator sold it for \$1800 a share.

The late "Lucky Baldwin" made a few hundred thousand dollars on the Comstock. He loaned \$200,000 or \$300,000 on a mortgage on a 30,000 acre farm of half wild land a few miles from Los Angeles. He spent a good deal of money in other directions, for he was emphatically a plunger, but he was forced at last to take the ranch. When he died it was about all he had, but it was rated at \$200,000,000. The nest egg was the Comstock.

The first glory of San Francisco was due to the Comstock, and the final impetus which led to the building of the first overland railroad was the Comstock—what it yielded and the hope it held out of the possibilities that slumbered in the desert. The revenues which the Comstock gave to that road daily for years, in freights and fares between Sacramento, and Reno, was enough to build a mile of new road.

Marcus Daly graduated as a miner on the Comstock. More than that he caught the Comstock spirit, and see the miracle he wrought in Montana!

David Keith dropped down, or rather, climbed up to the Comstock, a green boy from Nova Scotia. He had worked in the coal mines there. On the Comstock he sank the California shaft and an air shaft or two over the Suro tunnel. From there he drifted east and went to work in the Ontario mine in Utah. After a while, consulting with another miner, he thought he saw something ahead. So he gave up his place and started a tunnel. The result was the Silver King, which has made all concerned rich and has more reserves in sight now than ever before.

Do you know that while the world had been mining for thousands of years, the first safety cage ever put in a mine was at the Yellow Jacket shaft in Gold Hill on the Comstock? The incredulous had all kinds of doubts about the thing working, but

on a certain day it was advertised for exhibition at 2 p. m. A great crowd surrounded the shaft. There was the cage, but would it work? It hung suspended in the shaft and the shaft was 1200 feet deep. The superintendent of the mine, Gen. J. B. Winters, came along, stepped on the cage, and then ordered the engineer to cut the rope which held it. Men held their breath. The rope was severed, the cage dropped a foot, the clutches caught, the cage stopped and was held and miners were assured that another safety device had been added to mining. By the way, that was the first cage that hundreds of those present had ever seen.

Fred Hart was a bright Bohemian writer in Nevada in those days. The cage at the Yellow Jacket was the first he had ever seen. A few days later he went to San Francisco and put up at the Cosmopolitan hotel, and next day wrote his experiences to his home paper. He said that the cage in the hotel was bigger than those at the mines; that men and women, perfect strangers to each other, would crowd in; that in that way he got nearer to a pretty girl than he had been before in years; that in the city all the men took off their hats when they entered the cage; that the funny part was that there was no engineer in sight, but a boy ran it; when he wanted it to go up he pulled a rope down, and when he wanted it to go up, he pulled the rope up; that it stopped on every level and passengers went out into the drifts and crosscuts and others came aboard, and they were all better dressed than the miners on the Comstock, and he supposed this was because the drifts and crosscuts were so much better lighted.

POWERS MEETING IN PARIS TO DISCUSS MEXICO

SIGNIFICANT CONFERENCE MAY HAVE AN IMPORTANT BEARING.

(By Associated Press.) MEXICO CITY, July 17.—A private message received today says a meeting was held yesterday in Paris of representatives of the powers to consider the Mexican situation. The result was not made public.

BERLIN, July 17.—The foreign office denied today that Germany had demanded that the United States protect foreign interests in Mexico. Germany has taken no diplomatic action whatever in Washington.

MEXICO CITY, July 17.—All newspapers have been requested by the government to treat the trip of Ambassador Wilson conservatively and confine themselves today to speculation on his departure which means early recognition of the Huerta administration. El Pais displays the only bitterness, and attacks Ambassador Wilson as an enemy of Mexico.

WASHINGTON, July 17.—It is not known officially which foreign power inquired for a definition of this country's attitude on the Mexican situation. Reports in unofficial circles mentioned England and France, and it is generally believed to be one or the other.

MAKING PROGRESS.

Dennis O'Connell, who submitted to a minor operation last Monday is gaining rapidly. Francis Meits who was operated on at the same time was released from the hospital this afternoon. Little Allen Parrott of Millers, who was treated for appendicitis, is very low and may not recover.

DOUBLING CAPACITY.

The sampling works at Hazen are to be doubled in capacity, a crew of mechanics now being employed for this purpose. When ore sampling plants are doubled up it means a lot of shipments from old Nevada to the various smelters throughout the state.

A store that advertises must be a store of values—of "gargains" or the advertising would not pay.

"A Dirty Deal by the White House" Mulhall Quotes Sherman Against Taft

FIND OF PLACER GOLD IN FISH LAKE VALLEY REPORTED BY POWER COMPANY MAN

Some little excitement has been caused in Fish Lake valley by the finding of small nuggets between Oasis and Palmetto, and a message was received yesterday by Manager Bruce of the Power company, asking if a dry wash machine could be found in Tonopah. The inquirer was a line rider named Marshman who rides the line between Alkali and Silver Peak. Nothing definite is known but it is believed that the nuggets were found between Palmetto and Oasis. The rascals of the district have staked out the country and are preparing to test the ground to see if there is gold in pay quantities. The gravel is topped by a big ledge which may contain pay quartz.

ONE-EIGHTH INTEREST IN MOUNTAIN OF SILICA SAID TO BE 99.50 PURE SOLD FOR \$125 TO RAILROAD MAN

A discovery of silica said to analyze 99.50 per cent pure has been located in the vicinity of Coaldale and the men interested in the location say they have millions in sight. If what a stranger told them proves true there is no doubt of the value of the deposit.

The claims are fourteen miles from Coaldale in a northwesterly direction up a draw in the Monte Cristo mountains toward Basalt, on the narrow gauge, where the Southern Pacific surveyors for the short line to Palisade began their operations last year.

Two months ago a man from the east appeared at Coaldale and took a room at the road house. He spent his days in the hills and did not say anything to others about his business until he grew tired of what seemed a fruitless search and then he told Carl Reick, who runs the road house, that he was looking for a vast deposit of silica which he was informed was in that vicinity. He described the appearance of the mineral and Reick told him he knew all about it and would take him to the spot where the greatest outcropping showed.

When the visitor saw the mountain of whitish sand he was delighted and loaded up with samples which he sent out for analysis. When the

returns came in the sand was pronounced 99.50 pure. At least the stranger said so, and as an expression of his gratitude, he deeded an eighth interest in the find to Reick. Sixteen claims, or 230 acres, were staked out and the location certificate was filed with the recorder of Esmeralda county. The names of the locators were given as O. T. James, A. H. Lee, D. B. Gillis, W. R. Curry, James Smalley and J. W. Stalker. The latter is said to be master mechanic of the Tonopah & Tidewater shops at Ludlow.

These men say they have letters from an eastern firm which promises to take 100,000 tons a year, and pay for it at the rate of \$15 a ton f. o. b. Coaldale. The cost of mining is practically nothing as it can be handled as a steam shovel proposition and if the deposit is as rich as claimed there will be no trouble in persuading the railroad to extend a spur.

The only cloud on the horizon arises from the sale of another one-eighth interest to a railroad employee for \$125. The stranger explained that he had failed to connect with his mail and remittance and would dispose of a fortune for a mere song. Now the locators want to hear from the concern that offered to take 100,000 tons.

NESTOR OF BAR DIES AT HOME IN WINNEMUCCA

JUDGE M. L. BONNIFIELD SUCCEUMS TO ILLNESS OF THREE WEEKS.

After being unconscious for 2 hours following an illness of three weeks, M. S. Bonfield, former justice of the state supreme court, and out time judge of the district court of Humboldt county, is dead.

Judge Bonfield was one of the important history makers of Nevada, having been identified with the interests of the state since 1862. He was attracted to Nevada by the rich mineral discoveries, Virginia City then being at the height of her fame and Unionville just beginning to be heard of.

He delivered the fourth of July oration at Unionville in 1862, and 50 years later, the fourth of July, 1912, he again accepted an invitation to be the orator of the day.

Judge Bonfield came to Tonopah during the great rush and practiced law, accumulating a fortune in stock speculations, which was later lost. He returned to Winnemucca and resumed the practice of law.

TEMPERATURE REPORT.

Highest temperature yesterday, 87; a year ago, 91.
Lowest temperature last night, 63; a year ago, 59.

RELIEF FROM HEAT.

CHICAGO, July 17.—A drop in temperature of from 10 to 32 degrees today relieved the middle west of the heat wave which compelled such a heavy death toll during the last two weeks.

POTASH DRILLING WILL BE PUSHED AT DUCKWATER

RAILROAD VALLEY WILL CONTINUE THE SCENE OF ACTIVE OPERATIONS.

At the annual meeting of the Railroad Valley company held yesterday afternoon steps were taken to insure the raising of \$15,000 for the purpose of continuing the drill explorations at the dry lake where Manager Barndt found gaylussite at a depth of 718 feet.

The stockholders are satisfied that there is plenty of potash and the only question is to finance the company to permit a continuance of the sinking. The theory established by experience is that gaylussite invariably carries other salts, the heaviest being precipitated to the lowest depths and calcium soda, and sodium potassium may be found at higher places in the same region. These sweep toward the lowest center of the old lake bed and the only question now is to establish the exact place where the depression occurs as the present boundaries are not sufficient guides to the location sought.

Another argument in favor of this contention is that the lower salt does not carry any potash which is supposed to remain bottled up. The area to be prospected has been reduced by a former drilling seven and a half miles from the latest hole. The method to be pursued is to sink again and then by learning the depth at which the gaylussite occurs further out, a mathematical calculation should enable the engineers to establish the dip of the ledge that the next hole may come closer.

The old directors were re-elected as follows: Julius Hausmeister, W. W. Charles, Hugh H. Brown, Victor Barndt, Clyde A. Heller, M. J. Brandenstein and D. H. Walker.

Read the Bonanza Want Ads.

Prince of Lobbyists Alleges the Guineanness of Letters Dealing With Trust Busting Wall Street, Adding "Beveridge Is Talking Through His Hat"

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, July 17.—Testifying before the senate lobby committee Mulhall identified today letters dealing with Roosevelt's efforts to nominate Taft. One Mulhall wrote in 1908 to Secretary Schwedman, of the Manufacturers, he quoted Vice President Sherman as saying the fight was against Speaker Cannon.

"This is a dirty deal by the White House against the speaker," Mulhall wrote. "Watson states the president of the Pennsylvania railroad and Roosevelt are moving heaven and earth to nominate Taft and are willing to sacrifice the Sherman law

and every law to please the trust, and Wall street so as to get their support for his candidate."

Another the same year said Mulhall called on Senators Carter, Hemmaway, and Senator Aldrich's secretary assured him that it mattered not what the president attempted to do there was not going to be any senate at this session.

Mulhall wrote he reported to Hemmaway Senator Beveridge's sentiments favoring the injunction bill, and child labor bill and "Hemmaway told me to tell Beveridge he was talking through his hat and that had a damn poor one."

NO WATER DUE TO A BREAK

MILLS CLOSE DOWN ACCOUNT OF A LEAK IN MAIN NEAR RYE PATCH.

One of the eight inch mains carrying the city water broke last night at a point about one mile from Rye Patch compelling the company to shut down and drain the pipe before repairs could be effected. This deprived the local mills and mines of their supply and caused a suspension of work.

There was no interference with the domestic supply. Tomorrow morning repairs will be completed and water flowing through to the properties on the hills.

ALL IS READY FOR THE INDIANA AUTO TOURISTS

GOV. ODDIE SUGGESTS THAT INYO COUNTY BE CUT OUT OF PRESENT TRIP.

Arrangements for the entertainment and reception of the Hoosiers are in the hands of the committee appointed some time ago. The members are, chairman, Harry E. Epstein, J. S. McQuillan, Julius Smith, R. J. Highland, F. G. Waterhouse, W. W. Charles and Ed Malley. If it is found necessary to appoint others chairman Epstein is empowered to name other committees. Bob Richards, secretary of the Tonopah Auto club, is the executive of the committee.

The following letter from Governor Oddie written at the suggestion of the Reno Commercial club, has caused some comment with the general opinion expressed that Esmeralda and Nye counties will stand by Inyo and see that the boys from across the California line are not sidetracked. The letter follows:

"Carson City, Nev., July 15.
"A L. Westgaard, Brown Palace hotel, Denver, Colo. Your wire states party will leave Ely twenty-second same day. Impossible to reach Tahoe in one day from Bishop via Bridgeport, Woodfords and Tallac, which latest reports state is route chosen. I consider above route impracticable on account of time it will take so strongly advise changing plans as follows:

"Leave Goldfield twenty-third and come via Sodaville, Mina, Hawthorne, Flitchers, Sweetwater, Wellington, Gardnerville, Minden and Carson City to Reno, which can be made in one day if necessary. Leave Reno twenty-fourth for Tahoe Tavern, which I understand is place where party will spend night of twenty-fourth. This is beautiful trip up Truckee river via Verdi and Truckee.

"TASKER L. ODDIE, Governor."

SUSPECT FROM ILLINOIS WANTED FOR LOS ANGELES THEFT.

(By Associated Press.) SAN DIEGO, July 17.—Elmer Vencil, wanted in Los Angeles for the robbery of C. J. B. Carson, a jeweler, was arrested here today. The police say he confessed.

Many jewels were found in his room. Vencil was overheard asking a man in a saloon where he could pawn jewels. The police say he denied the murder and robbery two weeks ago of Charles Pendle, a Los Angeles money lender.

LOS ANGELES, July 17.—Vencil came here last October from Camp Point, Illinois, with his wife. She left him and went to work in a telephone office. A telegram from Illinois said he had been arrested several times for petty thefts.

CHINESE REBELS MAKE IT WARM FOR REPUBLIC

EIGHT PROVINCES SECEDE FROM SOUTHERN CHINESE CONFEDERACY.

(By Associated Press.) PEKING, July 17.—Eight provinces are preparing to declare independence from the southern Chinese confederacy according to an apparently authoritative statement. Fighting continues at Kiang Si.

The attitude of Japanese is a cause of bitterness here. The Chinese believe they are stirring trouble everywhere. Japanese officers are aiding the rebels.

The German consulate at Nanking is surrounded by rebels today. The trouble is caused by Germans permitting the extradition of two revolutionists who took refuge in the German consular at Nankow.

SACRAMENTO, July 17.—The first petition involving the referendum against the ad light abatement act was filed with the secretary of state today. It came from Calaveras county with 200 signed names.

Torpedo Boat's Critical Shape

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, July 17.—The torpedo boat destroyer, Fanning, arrived at Brooklyn navy yard this morning with the after compartment filled with water. The boat sprung a leak on the way to sea. The crew was driven out of quarters.

SERVIA DEFEATED BY BULGARS AND IN FULL RETREAT

DRIVEN OUT OF BULGARIAN TERRITORY AND GREEKS ALSO SUFFER.

(By Associated Press.) SOFIA, July 17.—An official dispatch reports the defeat yesterday by the Bulgarians of the Serbian forces in Bulgarian territory west of here. The Servians are retreating across the border toward Vlasina.

Greeks and Bulgarians on the left flank also suffered losses.

NEW YORK, July 17.—A cable to the Associated Press from the royal secretary in Belgium denies in the name of King Ferdinand reports of atrocities on the Bulgarians' retreat through Macedonia.

FOUR DEATH FROM HEAT REPORTED IN OMAHA

(By Associated Press.) OMAHA, July 17.—Although the weather bureau reported lower temperature today four deaths from heat were reported before noon.

ENGLISH AVIATOR KILLED BY FALL OF 100 FEET

(By Associated Press.) SALISBURY, Eng., July 17.—Major Hewston of the royal artillery military musing corps, was killed today by falling a hundred feet from a monoplane.

EVELETH, July 17.—A desperate effort failed to rescue five men from the Spruce mine flooded by a cloudburst yesterday. The company is driving pipes to furnish aid and food.

Big Freighters Are In Collision

(By Associated Press.) CHICAGO, July 17.—The steamers, Sheboygan and Iowa, of the Goodrich line of lake steamers, collided at the mouth of the harbor today. The Iowa with a thirty foot hole sank after she was towed to the wharf. No one was killed but the cargo loss is heavy.